

Children's Cabinet

Wednesday, October 2, 2019

10:00 AM – 11:30 AM

East Reading Room, Patrick Henry Building

1111 E Broad St, Richmond, VA 23219

MEETING MINUTES

Members Present: First Lady Pamela Northam, Lieutenant Governor Justin Fairfax, Secretary Daniel Carey, Secretary Atif Qarni, Secretary Bettina Ring

Members Absent: Secretary Brian Moran

I. Welcome

First Lady of Virginia Pamela Northam welcomed members and attendees. First Lady Northam provided a recap of her recent Back to School Tour across the Commonwealth and highlighted some of the comments that she had heard from educators and students.

II. Update on Early Childhood Development and School Readiness

Chief School Readiness Officer Jenna Conway first discussed the work being done by the Early Impact Leadership Council on implementing the Home Visiting Plan, which the Children's Cabinet previously endorsed. She explained that the group had been meeting across various agencies to implement the strategies and decide next steps.

Chief Conway provided an update on the implementation of the \$9.9m Preschool Development Grant Birth to Five (PDG B-5) grant that the Commonwealth received in January 2019. She reviewed the accomplishments to date, including the completion of a needs assessment and final draft of a strategic plan, pilot communities that are building models to be scaled to other communities across the commonwealth, and the design and launch of a new data portal (LinkB5).

Chief Conway reviewed the discussions and key takeaways from the July Work Group meeting which involved a stakeholder conversation about considerations for implementing the goals and strategies of the strategic plan.

Chief Conway reviewed Executive Directive Four, which was signed by Governor Northam in July to establish an Executive Leadership Team charged with developing a

set of recommendations and conducting a series of stakeholder listening sessions on how to improve school readiness. She explained that over 300 individuals participated in listening sessions representing more than 200 organizations. The four listening sessions were held in Norfolk, Annandale, Salem, and Chesterfield.

Chief Conway closed by highlighting the new PDG B-5 Funding Opportunity that was announced in September 2019. The PDG B-5 Renewal grant will be an opportunity to build and expand upon the previous grant work and the application is due November 5, 2019.

III. Introduction of the Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

Director of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Janice Underwood provided brief remarks to the Children's Cabinet and introduced herself to the stakeholders and members of the public that were in attendance.

IV. Update on Nutrition and Food Security

Assistant Secretary Heidi Hertz provided an update on work of the Nutrition and Food Security Work Group, beginning with highlights from the FeedVA Day of Action, which took place on September 20, 2019. Assistant Secretary Hertz informed the Children's Cabinet of the various messaging packages that were used to communicate and promote FeedVA, including School Nutrition, Health Outcomes, Virginia Grown Food Access, and Higher Education. She noted that there was a significant increase in the number of individuals visiting the FeedVA platform as a result of the effective outreach.

Assistant Secretary Hertz also provided an update on the Roadmap to End Hunger and briefly highlighted the broad areas where the group will be focusing their recommendations.

Lastly, Assistant Secretary Hertz highlighted recent developments in school nutrition (including school breakfast, CEP, and summer feeding), Farm to School, the Farmers' Market Incentive programs, and the Hunger Vital Signs.

V. Update on Trauma Informed Care

Deputy Secretary Gena Berger updated the Children's Cabinet on the formation of the Trauma-Informed Leadership Team that was created in response to a recommendation of the Work Group and the Children Cabinet to convene an internal steering committee to coordinate executive branch work around trauma-informed care. Deputy Secretary Berger explained the composition of the Trauma-Informed Leadership Team, the group's role, and the work that is ongoing by the Team and the Work Group. This work includes the Statewide Resilience Scorecard.

VI. Update on Maternal Mortality

Deputy Secretary Berger provided an update on the work that is ongoing to address maternal health and mortality. The initial focus areas for maternal health include care setting, coverage, and community-based services. She noted that Office of the Secretary of Health and Human Resources are holding a series of listening session on maternal health, and that these listening sessions are currently ongoing throughout the Commonwealth.

VII. Update on Public Charge

Deputy Secretary Berger presented on the federal government's proposed changes to the federal public charge rule and discussed the potential affects that the federal changes to this rule could have on public benefit programs.

VIII. Update on the School-Based Health Centers Task Force

Deputy Secretary Holly Coy introduced Ebony Lambert, the School Based Health Fellow in the Office of the Secretary of Education, who presented to the Children's Cabinet on the work being done by the Virginia School-Based Health Center Taskforce. Ms. Lambert reviewed the legislative charge from Senate Bill 1195 and offered a brief overview of school-based health centers as well as the national and local landscape. She explained the composition of the Task Force, the group's work to date, and its upcoming next steps with regards to developing recommendations.

IX. Meeting Adjourned